

Quality of Service (QoS) in 4G Wireless Networks

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by

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DEDICATION

To my Husband, Furqan Naeem and Kids, Ayaan Furqan and Abdul Hadi Furqan

To my Parents, **Muhammad Yousaf Shah** (late) and Maimoona Yousaf

Thank you for your love and support

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CERTIFICATE OF ORIGINAL AUTHORSHIP

I certify that the work in this thesis has not previously been submitted for a degree nor has it been submitted as part of requirements for a degree except as fully acknowledged within the text.

I also certify that the thesis has been written by me. Any help that I have received in my research work and the preparation of the thesis itself has been acknowledged. In addition, I certify that all information sources and literature used are indicated in the thesis.



Signature of Student:

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THE AUTHOR'S PUBLICATIONS

International Conference Publications and Proceedings

FURQAN, F. & HOANG, D. B. Analysis of Parameters Contributing Performance and Coverage of Mobile WiMAX with Mix Traffic. 12th International Conference on Parallel and Distributed Computing, Applications and Technologies (PDCAT), 20-22 Oct 2011. 313-318.

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ABSTRACT

Quality of Service (QoS) of 4th Generation Broadband Wireless Access (BWA) networks is directly affected by two factors: congestion in the network caused by changes in population density and application demand distribution; and varied attributes of network traffic such as minimum rate and delay requirements.

The current 4G BWA specifications define QoS parameters for each type of traffic, but do not provide QoS mechanisms including Radio Admission Control (RAC), scheduler and congestion prevention mechanism to ensure the QoS to existing and new connections within the network. Significant amount of research is dedicated to provide QoS and control congestion using RAC and scheduler. Current QoS mechanisms are inadequate to deal with network congestions and provide fairness among the traffic flows.

In this thesis, we have proposed a QoS framework and control algorithms for 4G BWA networks, Mobile WiMAX and Long Term Evolution (LTE). The framework includes a new load control mechanism, the Fair Intelligent Congestion Control (4G-FICC) and an intelligent admission control, the Fair Intelligent Admission Control (4G-FIAC), based on the QoS architecture of 4G BWA networks.

4G-FICC avoids and controls congestion at the base station of WiMAX and LTE networks, respectively. It avoids congestion through traffic balancing, while handles congestion when unavoidable, allocates resources fairly and minimizes resource underutilization. It estimates fair share of bandwidth for each type of service based on its current resource utilization, QoS constraints and load at the network. It ensures that the traffic is scheduled in a way that fairness is guaranteed among the traffic flows, without violating the QoS requirements of connections.

We have identified critical parameters of 4G-FICC and discuss the impact of various settings of these parameters on the network performance. Detailed and comprehensive simulations are performed in ns-2 and OPNET. The results show that 4G-FICC is always active in the network, whether the network is overloaded or underutilized. It performs extremely well in allocating resources fairly among different type of services, yet preserving

their QoS requirements in terms of throughput, delay and jitter. Furthermore, 4G-FICC is simple to implement, robust and relatively insensitive to parameter settings.

To ensure end-to-end delay and QoS, we propose a predictive RAC, the Fair Intelligent Admission Control for 4G networks (4G-FIAC). It admits or rejects an incoming connection based on the resource availability and the current load in the network. The key idea is to utilise feedback from the load control module to determine load in the network. The proposed RAC is based on the bandwidth borrowing and degradation of over provisioned connections in order to minimise blocking probability and maximise resource utilisation in the network.

Therefore, 4G-FIAC along with 4G-FICC avoids congestion in the network to guarantee QoS to end-users. Detailed and comprehensive simulations are performed in ns-2 and OPNET to show the efficiency of the proposed RAC scheme. Extensive simulations demonstrate that 4G-FIAC outperforms existing schemes in terms of blocking probability of different service classes and fair resource allocation.

In this thesis, we have performed a comprehensive study of parameters that affect both the capacity and coverage of 4G networks. It serves as a basis for designing effective QoS schemes for dynamic and mixed distribution of services. With thorough investigation of the impact of QoS schemes on the capacity and dimensioning of 4G networks, we have presented a general and efficient approach for the network operators to determine the extent to which current network configurations can effectively manage the dynamic variations in the access and core side of the network.

Different scenarios are presented in the thesis to evaluate the effects of QoS schemes on the capacity of the network. The results are valuable in assisting the network operators to determine the optimum point for re-dimensioning the network to minimise cost and ensure the QoS of connections in terms of throughput and delay.

The research results are not limited to 4G networks in particular, but can be applied to other next generation wireless technologies, to ensure QoS to users in the covered area.

Table of Contents

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	I
THE AUTHOR'S PUBLICATIONS.....	IV
ABSTRACT	VI
LIST OF FIGURES	XIII
Chapter 1 Introduction	1
1.1 Defining Broadband Wireless Access Networks (BWA) and QoS	3
1.2 Motivation and Research Issues.....	6
1.3 Research Aims and Objectives	8
1.4 Research Contribution	10
1.5 Research Model and Methodology	11
1.6 Structure of the Thesis	16
Chapter 2 Literature Review and Related Work	18
2.1 System Level Architecture of LTE and WiMAX	18
2.2 LTE Protocol Architecture.....	21
2.2.1 User Plane Protocol layered Architecture	21
2.2.2 Control Plane Protocol layered Architecture.....	25
2.2.3 Control Channels Overhead.....	26
2.2.4 Protocol Overhead	27
2.3 QoS in LTE Networks	28
2.3.1 QoS Parameters of EPS bearers.....	28
2.4 Layered Protocol Architecture in WiMAX Networks	31
2.4.1 MAC Layer	31
2.4.2 Physical Layer	32
2.4.3 MAC and Physical layers Overhead.....	34
2.5 QoS in WiMAX Networks.....	37

2.6 Current Approaches for QoS Provisioning.....	39
2.6.1 Load Balancing Schemes.....	39
2.6.2 RAC Approaches.....	43
2.6.3 Scheduling Approaches	52
2.6.4 Combined Load Control, RAC and scheduling approaches.....	52
2.7 Summary	54
Chapter 3 Proposed QoS framework and Control Algorithms for 4th Generation Networks	55
3.1 Proposed QoS Framework	55
3.2 Fair Intelligent CC for 4G Networks (4G-FICC)	57
3.2.1 Description of FICC	57
3.2.2 Design Goals of FICC for 4G Networks (4G-FICC)	58
3.2.3 Estimation of Expected Rate of Each QoS Class (ER_{QoC}):	60
3.2.4 Restriction on Expected Rate (ER) of each QoS Class	60
3.2.5 Queue Control Function ($f(Q)$).....	61
3.2.6 Step-Wise Degradation and Upgradation	62
3.2.7 Fair Resource Allocation among Flows of Different QoS Classes	62
3.2.8 Fair Resource Allocation among Flows of the Same QoS Class	63
3.2.9 Parameters of 4G-FICC	64
3.3 Fair Intelligent Admission Control for 4G Networks (4G-FIAC).....	66
3.3.1 Load Estimation.....	67
3.3.2 Bandwidth Borrowing	69
3.4 Scheduler.....	74
3.5 Summary	76
Chapter 4 WiMAX Fair Intelligent Congestion Control- (WFICC)	77
4.1 Congestion Control Algorithm for WiMAX Networks.....	77
4.1.1 WiMAX Fair Intelligent Congestion Control (WFICC)	78
4.2 Simulation Setup.....	84

4.3	Simulation Results	86
4.3.1	Queue Length (Q_{len})	87
4.3.2	Fair resource allocation among CoSs and within a CoS	88
4.3.3	Average Delay	90
4.4	Parameter Settings	91
4.4.1	Impact of Target Operating Point (Q_0)	93
4.4.2	Impact of Over Sell Factor (α).....	100
4.4.3	Impact of Exponential Average Factor (β)	102
4.5	Discussion on Results	104
4.6	Summary	106
Chapter 5	Fair Intelligent Congestion Control for LTE Networks (LTE-FICC)	107
5.1	Overall System architecture	107
5.2	Modified Round Robin (MRR).....	108
5.3	Congestion Control Algorithm for LTE	110
5.3.1	Queue Control function ($f(Q)$).....	111
5.3.2	Mean Allowed Class Rate of Each Class of Bearer ($MACR_{CoB}$)	111
5.3.3	Degradation Procedure	113
5.3.4	Upgradation Procedure	115
5.4	Simulation Model.....	119
5.4.1	LTE eNodeB Node Model.....	121
5.4.2	LTE eNodeB Process Models.....	122
5.5	Simulation Setup.....	125
5.6	Simulation Results	126
5.6.1	Queue Length (Q_{len}) and Traffic Dropped	126
5.6.2	Average Queuing Delay	128
5.6.3	Throughput of GBR Bearers.....	129
5.6.4	Fair Resource Allocation	130

5.7 Discussion on Results	133
5.8 Summary	135
Chapter 6 Fair Intelligent Admission Control - WiMAX	136
6.1 Fair Intelligent Admission Control for WiMAX Networks.....	136
6.2 Description of WFIAC.....	141
6.2.1 UGS connection.....	142
6.2.2 rtPS connection.....	143
6.2.3 nrtPS connection.....	144
6.2.4 BE connection.....	145
6.3 Simulation Setup.....	145
6.4 Simulation Results	146
6.4.1 Blocking Probability (BP)	147
6.4.2 Effect of Load Estimation on QoS	149
6.5 Discussion on Results	154
6.6 Summary	155
Chapter 7 Radio Admission Control for LTE	156
7.1 eNodeB Scheduler	157
7.2 Description of LTE-FIAC.....	159
7.2.1 Congestion Control Module (CCM).....	160
7.2.2 Extra Resource Reservation Module (ERRM)	161
7.2.3 Connection Arrival Procedure (CAP).....	164
7.2.4 Connection Departure Procedure (CDP)	174
7.3 Performance Evaluation of LTE-FIAC.....	178
7.3.1 Simulation Setup.....	180
7.3.2 Simulation Results.....	180
7.4 Summary	193
Chapter 8 Impact of QoS Schemes on Capacity and Coverage Analysis.....	194

8.1 Factors effecting Coverage and Capacity	194
8.2 Coverage Analysis	196
8.2.1 Coverage Analysis of Mobile WiMAX.....	197
8.2.2 Coverage Analysis of LTE Networks.....	198
8.3 Parameters of Capacity Analysis	200
8.3.1 Parameters for Capacity Analysis of Mobile WiMAX	201
8.3.2 Parameters for Capacity Analysis of LTE Networks	203
8.4 Analysis of Capacity Estimation.....	206
8.4.1 Impact of Frequency	208
8.4.2 Impact of Bandwidth	208
8.4.3 Impact of Repetition Factor (R).....	209
8.4.4 Impact of Application Distribution (AD)	210
8.4.5 Impact of QoS Schemes	212
8.5 Summary	216
Chapter 9 Conclusion and Future Work.....	218
9.1 Summary and Contribution of This Thesis.....	218
9.2 Future Work	221
References.....	224
Appendices.....	232
Appendix A.....	232
Appendix B.....	233

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 1.1 Proposed QoS Framework.....	9
Figure 1.2 Research Methodology	12
Figure 1.3 Steps of Designing and Implementation Phase	14
Figure 1.4 QoS Framework Evaluation Strategy	15
Figure 2.1 System architecture of (a) LTE Networks (b) WiMAX Networks	19
Figure 2.2 User Plane Protocol Stack (UE - P-GW) of LTE Networks	21
Figure 2.3 OFDMA and SC-FDMA	23
Figure 2.4 Frame Structure Type 1, Reproduced from (3GPP 36.211).....	24
Figure 2.5 Control plane protocol Stack (UE – MME) of LTE Networks	25
Figure 2.6 EPS Bearer Service Architecture (3GPP TS 36.300).....	28
Figure 2.7 Frame Structure of Time Division Duplex (TDD) in WiMAX Networks	34
Figure 2.8 MAC PDU Format	35
Figure 2.9 WiMAX QoS Architecture.....	38
Figure 3.1 Proposed QoS Framework.....	56
Figure 3.2 Calculation of Mean Allowed Class Rate per QoS Class ($MACR_{QoC}$)	60
Figure 3.3 Queue Control Function ($f(Q)$).....	61
Figure 3.4 Algorithms of Degradation and Upgradation Procedures of 4G-FICC.....	64
Figure 3.5 Algorithm of Load Estimation of 4G-FIAC.....	69
Figure 3.6 Algorithm of Degradation Procedure of 4G-FIAC	73
Figure 3.7 Algorithm of Connection Arrival Procedure of 4G-FIAC	74

Figure 4.1 Algorithm of WFICC	83
Figure 4.2 Flow Chart of WFICC	84
Figure 4.3 Simulation Setup	85
Figure 4.4 Queue length (Bytes) without WFICC	87
Figure 4.5 Queue length (Bytes) with WFICC	87
Figure 4.6 Throughput (kbps) without WFICC	88
Figure 4.7 Throughput (kbps) with WFICC	89
Figure 4.8 Average Delay (sec) without WFICC	90
Figure 4.9 Average Delay (sec) with WFICC	91
Figure 4.10 Queue length (Bytes) with BUR– 1/8	93
Figure 4.11 Queue length (Bytes) with BUR- 1/16	94
Figure 4.12 Average numbers of free slots with BUR-1/4	94
Figure 4.13 Average Number of free Slots with different values of BUR	95
Figure 4.14 Throughput (kbps) of Two-Flows per CoS with BUR-1/2	96
Figure 4.15 Throughput (kbps) of Two-Flows per CoS with BUR-1/16	96
Figure 4.16 Average Delay (sec) of Two-Flows per CoS with BUR-1/2.....	97
Figure 4.17 Average Delay (sec) of Two-Flows per CoS with BUR–1/16	98
Figure 4.18 Jitter (sec) of Two-Flows per CoS (a) with BUR-1/4 (b) with BUR-1/16.....	99
Figure 4.19 Queue lengths (Bytes) with various values of α	100
Figure 4.20 Throughput (Kbps) of Two-Flows per CoS (a) with α -1.0 (b) with α - 1.5	101
Figure 4.21 Delay (sec) of Two-Flows per CoS (a) with α -1.0 (b) with α - 1.5.....	101
Figure 4.22 Queue lengths (Bytes) with various values of β	103

Figure 4.23 Total count of Upgradation and Degradation.....	103
Figure 5.1 Coordination between LTE-FICC, Scheduler and Link adaptation unit.....	108
Figure 5.2 Algorithm of LTE-FICC.....	117
Figure 5.3 Flow chart of LTE-FICC.....	118
Figure 5.4 LTE Architecture in OPNET.....	119
Figure 5.5 EPC Configurable Attributes.....	120
Figure 5.6 LTE Config node ConfigurableAttributes.....	120
Figure 5.7 LTE eNodeB Configurable Attributes.....	120
Figure 5.8 LTE eNodeB's Node Model.....	122
Figure 5.9 lte_s1 Process Model.....	122
Figure 5.10 lte_enb_as Process Model	124
Figure 5.11 (a) Queue Length (Bytes) (b) traffic Dropped at an eNodeB, without LTE-FICC ...	126
Figure 5.12 (a) Queue length (Bytes) (b) Traffic Dropped at an eNodeB, with LTE-FICC	127
Figure 5.13 (a) Queue lengths (Bytes) (b) Queuing delays (sec) at an eNodeB, with LTE-FICC executed per subframe and per frame	127
Figure 5.14 (a) Queue lengths (Bytes) (b) Queuing delays at an eNodeB, with LTE-FICC executed per subframe, per frame and per second.....	128
Figure 5.15 Queuing Delay (sec) (a) without LTE_FICC (b) with LTE-FICC.....	129
Figure 5.16 Throughput (kbps) of GBR Bearers without LTE-FICC	129
Figure 5.17 Throughput (kbps) of GBR Bearers with LTE-FICC.....	130
Figure 5.18 Total Throughput (kbps) of non-GBR bearers without LTE-FICC	130
Figure 5.19 Total Throughput (kbps) of non-GBR bearers with LTE-FICC	131

Figure 5.20 Throughput (kbps) of non-GBR flows without LTE-FICC	132
Figure 5.21 Throughput (kbps) of non-GBR flows with LTE-FICC.....	132
Figure 6.1 Algorithm of WFIAC	140
Figure 6.2 Degradation Procedure of WFIAC	141
Figure 6.3 BP of UGS connections.....	147
Figure 6.4 BP of non-UGS connections	148
Figure 6.5 Queue length (Bytes) without load estimation	150
Figure 6.6 Average Delay (sec) without load estimation	150
Figure 6.7 Average Free Slots without load estimation.....	151
Figure 6.8 Average Throughput (kbps) without load estimation.....	151
Figure 6.9 Queue Length (Bytes) with load estimation.....	152
Figure 6.10 Average Delay (sec) with load estimation.....	152
Figure 6.11 Average Free Slots with load estimation.....	153
Figure 6.12 Average Throughput (kbps) with load estimation.....	154
Figure 7.1 LTE-FIAC at an eNodeB.....	159
Figure 7.2 Procedure of Extra Resource Reservation Module of LTE-FIAC	163
Figure 7.3 Procedure of Load Estimation of LTE-FIAC	168
Figure 7.4 Connection Arrival Procedure of LTE-FIAC.....	174
Figure 7.5 Connection Departure Procedure of LTE-FIAC	178
Figure 7.6 Blocking Probability for different service types (a). Voice (b). Video (c). Web	181
Figure 7.7 Blocking Probability of connections at the eNodeB with Ref Scheme.....	182
Figure 7.8 Blocking Probability of connections at the eNodeB with Ref –Deg Scheme	182

Figure 7.9 Blocking Probability of connections at an eNodeB with LTE-FIAC.....	183
Figure 7.10 Throughput (kbps) of video bearers (a) with Ref-Deg scheme (b) With LTE-FIAC	184
Figure 7.11(a) Queue length (Bytes) (b) Traffic Dropped (kbps), without Load Estimation.....	186
Figure 7.12 Queue length (Bytes) with Load Estimation	186
Figure 7.13 Average Queuing Delay (sec) without Load Estimation.....	187
Figure 7.14 Average Queuing Delay (sec) with Load Estimation.....	188
Figure 7.15 Average Throughput (kbps) of the network with and without Load Estimation	188
Figure 7.16 Average Throughput (kbps) of Voice and non-Voice traffics with Load Estimation	189
Figure 7.17 Blocking Probability of new calls with and without ERRM and CDP	191
Figure 7.18 QoS Degradation Probability of ongoing calls with and without ERRM and CDP..	192
Figure 8.1 Factors Contributing to Coverage and Capacity of Wireless Networks.....	196
Figure 8.2 Cell Radius of Rural Area with Various frequencies for WiMAX networks.....	197
Figure 8.3 Cell Radius of Rural Area with various bandwidths for LTE networks	199
Figure 8.4 Groups of different Modulation and Coding Scheme (MCS)	202
Figure 8.5 Number of Supported Users and Applications Data-Usage (Mbps), with AD-1 LTE Networks.....	207
Figure 8.6 Number of Supported Users and Applications Data-Usage (Mbps), with AD-2 LTE Networks.....	211
Figure 8.7 Number of Supported Users and Applications Data-Usage (Mbps), Increase in Only VoIP Service Demand – (Case-1).....	213

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1. Comparison between Mobile WiMAX and LTE.....	4
Table 2.1. Available Resource Blocks per Subframe for Different channel Bandwidths	24
Table 2.2. Transport Blocks (TBs) per second and Resource Elements (REs) per TB	26
Table 2.3. Characteristics of LTE Standardized QCIs.....	29
Table 4.1. System Parameters.....	86
Table 4.2. Throughput (kbps) of Two-Flows of rtPS with various values of BUR.....	97
Table 4.3. Average Delay (sec) of rtPS and nrtPS Service Flows with various values of BUR	98
Table 4.4. Throughput (Kbps) with Various Levels of α	102
Table 5.1. EPS bearer Configuration	125
Table 6.1. QoS Parameters of each Class of Service	146
Table 7.1. QoS Requirements of Applications	180
Table 8.1. Probability of MCS at 2300 MHz and 700 MHz- WiMAX networks.....	201
Table 8.2. Probability of Each Group of MCS for MAP Transmission	202
Table 8.3. Application Distributions- WiMAX Networks.....	203
Table 8.4. Parameters of Web Traffic.....	204
Table 8.5. Application Distributions- LTE Networks	204
Table 8.6. Protocol Overhead with Proportional Fair Scheduler and 20 MHz bandwidth- LTE Networks	205
Table 8.7. Number of Supported Users with 700 MHz and 2300 MHz frequencies and Slot Utilization with 700 MHz, with AD-1 – WiMAX Networks	207
Table 8.8. Effect of Change in frame Duration- WiMAX Networks	209

Table 8.9. Number of Supported Users and the Slot Utilization with 700 MHz frequency, with AD-2 –WiMAX Networks.....	210
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Table 8.10. Number of Supported Users and Applications Data-Usage (kbps) – LTE-Networks	214
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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

AC	Admission Control
ACR	Allowed Class Rate
ARP	Allocation and Retention Priority
ASN-GW	Access Service Network-Gateway
BE	Best Effort
BER	Bit Error Rate
BP	Blocking Probability
BS	Base Station
BUR	Buffer Utilization Ratio
BW	Bandwidth
BWA	Broadband Wireless Access
CAP	Connection Arrival Procedure
CBR	Constant bit Rate
CC	Congestion Control
CCCH	Common Control Channel
CCM	Congestion Control Module
CDP	Connection Departure Procedure
CoB	Class of Bearers
CoS	Class of Service
CP	Cyclic Prefix
CPS	Common Part Sublayer
CS	Complete Sharing
CSN	Connectivity Service Network
DL	Downlink
DSL	Digital Subscriber Line
eNodeB	Enhanced NodeB
EPC	Evolved Packet Core

EPS	Evolved Packet System
ER	Expected Rate
ERRM	Extra Resource Reservation Module
ertPS	Extended Real time Polling Service
E-UTRAN	Evolved -Universal Terrestrial Radio Access Network
$f(Q)$	Queue control Function
FDD	Frequency Division Duplex
FIAC	Fair Intelligent Admission Control
FICC	Fair Intelligent Congestion Control
FTP	File Transfer Protocol
FTTH	Fiber To The Home
GBR	Guaranteed Bit Rate
GPC	Grant Per Connection
GPRS	General Packet Radio Service
GPSS	Grant per Subscriber Station
GSM	Global System for Mobile
HSDPA	High Speed Downlink Packet Access
HSPA	High Speed Packet Access
HSUPA	High Speed Uplink Packet Access
HTTP	Hypertext Transfer Protocol
IEEE	Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IMT-Advanced	Internal Mobile Telecommunication- Advanced
IP	Internet Protocol
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
LE	Load Estimation
LTE	Long Term Evolution
MAC	Medium Access Control
MACR	Mean Allowed Class Rate
MBR	Maximum Bit Rate

MCS	Modulation and Coding Scheme
MME	Mobility Management Entity
MRTR	Minimum Reserved Traffic Rate
MSTR	Maximum Sustained Traffic Rate
NBN	National Broadband Network
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
Non- GBR	Non Guaranteed Bit Rate
nrtPS	Non Real Time Polling Services
ns-2	Network Simulator-2
OFDMA	Orthogonal Frequency Division Multiple Access
OH	Overheads
PAPR	Peak-to-Average Power Ratio
PDCCH	Physical Downlink Control Channel
PDCP	Packet Data Convergence Protocol
PDN	Packet Data Network
PER	Packet Error Rate
PF	Proportional Fair
P-GW	PDN GW
PRACH	Physical Random Access Channel
PRB	Physical Resource Block
PUCCH	Physical Uplink Control Channel
Q_0	Target Operating Point
QCI	QoS Class Indicator
Qlen	Queue Length
QoC	QoS Class
QoS	Quality of Service
RAC	Radio Admission Control
RB	Resource Block
RE	Resource Element

RLC	Radio Link Control
ROHC	Robust Header Compression
RR	Round Robin
RRM	Radio Resource Management
rtPS	Real Time Polling Services
SAE	System Architecture Evolution
SC-FDMA	Single Carrier- Frequency Division Multiple Access
SDF	Service Data Flow
S-GW	Serving Gateway
SINR	Signal-to-Interference-to- Noise Ratio
SLA	Service Level Agreement
SNR	Signal-to-Noise Ratio
SS	Subscriber Station
TB	Transport Block
TCP	Transmission Control Protocol
TDD	Time Division Duplex
TFT	Traffic Flow Template
ToS	Type of Service
TTI	Transmission Time Interval
UE	User Equipment
UGS	Unsolicited Grant Services
UL	Uplink
UMTS	Universal Mobile Telecommunication System
VBR	Variable bit Rate
VNI	Visual Networking Index
VoIP	Voice over IP
VP	Virtual Partitioning
WCDMA	Wideband Code Division Multiple Access
WFIAC	WiMAX Fair Intelligent Admission Control

WFICC	WiMAX Fair Intelligent Congestion Control
WiMAX	World Wide Interoperability for Microwave Access
WRR	Weighted Round Robin
3GPP	3 rd Generation Partnership Project